



United States Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management
106 North Parkmont

Butte Field Office
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BLM SEEKS NOMINEES FOR RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

BUTTE – The deadline for applying for a position on the Bureau of Land Management Resource Advisory Council (RAC) for western Montana is rapidly approaching. Interested individuals need to submit their information by April 21 to Richard Hotaling, Butte Field Office Manager, 106 North Parkmont, Butte, MT 59701.

The Western Montana RAC offers advice and recommendations on BLM administered land in three field offices – Butte, Dillon, and Missoula. A completed background information form (including specification of nomination category) and letter of reference from represented interests or organizations must be included for each nominee. The terms of five members from the 15-member council expire September 20.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act directs the Secretary of the Interior to involve the public in the planning and management of the public lands administered by the BLM. The councils were established in August 1995. "The RACs have been very effective partners in helping resolve public lands issues that affect Montana's quality of life," said BLM State Director Marty Ott.

Each council has 15 members who serve staggered terms. Council membership must reflect a balanced representation of the various interests and users of the public lands. These

include persons who represent the following categories:

- Category 1 - holders of federal grazing permits; energy and mineral development; timber industry; transportation or rights-of-way; off-highway vehicle use; or commercial recreation;
- Category 2 – nationally or regionally recognized environmental organizations; dispersed recreation; archeological and historic interests; or wild horse and burro groups; and
- Category 3 - elected state, county or local government; employees of state agencies responsible for management of natural resources; Native American tribes; academicians involved in natural sciences; and the public-at-large.

Following are the categories for which the BLM is seeking nominations in western Montana, for three-year terms which will begin September 21, 2004.

- Western Montana: Rick Hotaling, BLM Butte Field Manager, 106 N. Parkmont, Butte, MT, 59701, 406/533-7600. Three openings in Category 1; one opening in Category 2; and one opening in Category 3.

Nominees will be evaluated based on their education, training, experience, and knowledge of the issues and the geographical area of the council. Nominees should have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision making.

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